

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PM-03

NSC-05 DODE-00 HA-02 PA-01 L-01 IO-06 /044 W

-----071546 110518Z /20

R 100836Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9983

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T JAKARTA 9115

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, ID

SUBJECT: ADMIRAL SUDOMO'S COMMENTS ON THE DETAINEE PROBLEM

1. DURING MY JULY 10 CALL ON DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, ADMIRAL SUDOMO, I REFERRED TO THE ADMIRAL'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT THE PKI/GESTAPU DETAINEES WOULD BE RELEASED THIS YEAR IN THREE GROUPS. SUDOMO CONFIRMED THAT THIS WOULD INDEED BE THE CASE. A TOTAL OF 4,000 WILL BE RELEASED ON JULY 21, 2,000 DURING OCTOBER, AND THE REMAINING 4,000 IN DECEMBER. DETAINEES FRM THE FIRST TWO GROUPS WILL COME LARGELY FROM DETENTION CENTERS ON JAVA (HE SAID 9,000 ARE STILL HELD THERE), WHILE THE 4,000 DUE TO BE RELEASED IN DECEMBER WILL COME LARGELY FROM BURU. ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF RELEASING MORE THAN 10,000 DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1978, SUDOMO SAID THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE TIME REQUIRED TO ROCESS THOSE BEING RELEASED AND THE NEED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. (COMMENT: THIS CONFLICTS WITH REPORTS FROM OTHER SOURCES, BUT GIVEN SUDOMO'S KEY POSITION, WE

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ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT HIS INFORMATION IS ACCURATE AT THE PRESENT TIME.)

2. REGARDING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PKI/GESTAPU DETAINEES, SUDOMO CONFIRMED BY FIGURE OF ABOUT 19,500 OF WHICH SLIGHTLY LESS THAN 17,000 ARE IN CATEGORY B. AN ESTIMATED 1,833 ARE CATEGORY A, AND THE REMAINDER ARE

IN CATEGORIES X AND Y PENDING COMPLETION OF THE SECURITY INVESTIGATION WHICH WILL DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WILL BE PUT IN CATEGORY A, B, OR C.

3. ASKED WHETHER DETAINEES ALREADY RELEASEE HAD CREATED SECURITY PROBLEMS, SUDOMO SAID WITH ONE EXCEPTION THEY HAD NOT. THE EXCEPTION WAS IN SURABAYA WHERE A DETAINEE RELEASED LAST YEAR WAS INVOLVED IN FOMENTING AGITATION AMONG BEJAK DRIVERS. THIS AGITATOR HAS BEEN REARRESTED AND WILL BE TRIED UNDER APPROPRIATE INDONESIAN LAWS. OTHERWISE. THE DETAINEES HAVE SETTLED BACK INTO THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES WITH THE MAJOR PROBLEM BEING THE DIFFICULTY IN FINDING EMPLOYMENT, PARTICULARLY ON JAVA WHERE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ARE ALREADY EXTREMELY HIGH.

4. SUDOMO SAID ICRC VISITS TO DETENTION CENTERS ON JAVA HAD GONE WELL AND THAT THESE WOULD BE EXTENDED WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE TO CENTERS ON OTHER ISLANDS.

5. TURNING TO STUDENT DETAINEES, SUDOMO SAID THAT ABOUT 60 PICKED UP IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT MPR SESSION ARE STILL IN CUSTODY AND WILL BE TRIED UNDER INDONESIA'S SECURITY LAWS. THRITY-FIVE NON-STUDENTS WHO WERE ENGAGED IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES AND OTHER AGITATIONS DURING THE MPR SESSION WILL ALSO BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL. THIS LATTER FIGURE INCLUDES SEVERAL PROMINENT RIGHT WING  
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MUSLIMS, SUCH AS JUNAIDY, BUNG TOMO AND PROFESSOR SUNY, WHO WERE ARRESTED AFTER THE MPR SESSION.

6. ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN GENERAL, SUDOMO SAID THAT MINISTER OF DEFENSE JUSUF HAS ESTABLISHED A FIRM POLICY OF FORCING THE INDONESIAN SECURITY FORCES TO MOVE INTO THE BACKGROUND. THE ARMED FORCES HAD HOPES TO DO THIS AFTER THE MALARI DISTURBANCES IN JANUARY 1974, BUT THIS DID NOT OCCUR PARTLY BECAUSE LOCAL MILITARY COMMENDERS AND OTHERS KEPT PUSHING THE MILITARY TO THE FOREFRONT. WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW CABINET, THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION, INFORMATION, AND RELIGION ARE TAKING THE MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH STUDNETS AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF SOCIETY AND OF EXPLAINING GOVERNMENT POLICIES TO THEM. UNLESS A SERIOUS SECURITY SITUATION SHOULD DEVELOP, THE MILITARY WILL "STAY IN THE BARRACKS".  
MASTERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 10 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014